

Pathway to Renewal

Practical Steps for Congregations



Daniel P. Smith and
Mary K. Sellon-Huycke

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ABOUT the AUTHORS

Daniel P. Smith and Mary K. Sellon-Huycke are clergy in the United Methodist Church (Pacific Northwest Conference). In addition they are certified professional personal and organizational coaches for their non-profit organization, CourageousSpace Coaching & Consulting. They work with pastors, churches and judicatories across the U.S and Canada in the areas of congregational renewal, leadership development, and conflict facilitation.

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No pastor can lead a congregation to renewal alone. It requires a complete change of heart for the whole congregation. Congregational renewal occurs when people engage communally in a transition in their very understanding of the nature and purpose of their church. This goes far beyond a simple retooling of the mission statement or addition of a few programs. Authors Mary Sellon-Huycke and Daniel Smith lead congregations through this process of renewal, breaking down into understandable components what is happening in the people themselves that makes renewal efforts successful.

Pathway to Renewal offers pastors and congregational leaders a framework for understanding and addressing the deep cultural shift facing the people of a congregation during congregational renewal. This book will help leaders make sense of where their congregation could get stuck and guide them in thinking through what needs to be addressed next as a congregation seeks renewal. The realigning of a congregation's heart and sense of purpose can be a long process, but one that ultimately all congregations must experience in order to fully live out the world-transforming mission that God has given them to do.

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